

## Picturesque Costumes For Easter Weddings



COSTUMES FOR THE SPRINGTIME BRIDE.

WITH the advent of Easter, one of the traditional wedding times, the question of bridal finery presents itself importantly on the sartorial carpet. Most of the April brides by this time, of course, have their plans well laid, and the essentials like lingerie, negligee and little house gowns, which may be made up almost any time, are well under way, the frocks, evening gowns, hats and wraps having been left until the last minute when styles should be definitely settled.

### Queen Anne Window With Curtains

ALTHOUGH the idea of using black in domestic decoration may seem odd to persons of conservative taste, the color or absence of color, as we were taught in school—has had considerable vogue recently. The picture



shows a window adorned in Queen Anne style, the curtains having a black background with colored flowers profusely scattered on it. Printed linen and cotton fabrics, such as is this Queen Anne, have met with favor in England. A conventional Italian design is printed on black. Oyster gray

less costly to contemplate for the girl whose trousseau allowance is limited. Most brides to be will sacrifice almost anything else in the supply of new clothes in order to have this one wonderful costume, the possession of woman for one brief hour of one day in her whole life. No matter how insignificant a woman is at other times, in this one hour she is the supreme and central figure in her little world, and it seems fitting that her garb should

leafage relieved by brilliantly colored humming birds and butterflies is also printed with a black ground, and there are many others. If you have some "William and Mary" furniture use for your hangings a reproduced Flanders tapestry—blueish gray leafage with bright brown and wine colored tulips. There is a new clematis design, the flowers being either wine colored or mauve and the foliage gray. An original treatment in which gray foliage is used in an "all over" manner is of hazel, the nuts being madder brown.

### FOOTWEAR.

In regard to footwear, the taste for checked gaiters is growing in some circles, as is also the popularity of large silk bows of a color to match the belt or the trimming of the corsage or some prominent article of adornment. Royal blue, old green or violet ribbon adds a note of elegance to our patent black leather shoes. There is no denying that at this moment the two items of the feminine toilet which offer the most charming opportunities for coquetry are the shoes and stockings. According to our whim of our taste, they may either match the dress or contrast vividly with it. We see violet velvet shoes with red or blue dresses and green shoes and stockings with blue, black or gray dresses. And the variety of stockings is sensational. They are very long and lavishly embroidered or openworked. Flare arabesques run around in an intricate pattern or flowers grow up an openwork trellis. Fancy colored stockings bloom forth with tiny roses, and golden butterflies are sprinkled over a navy blue ground, or violets are scattered on skin colored stockings. And fanciful colors are not sufficient. Not only our eyes to be charmed, but also our ears, for it appears that some women go about with tiny tinkling bells attached to their suspenders, which give forth vague and mysterious sounds. This harmless amusement rather reminds us of our pet cats, around the neck of which we pass a bell so that we may know where they are when they move about.

express the importance and beauty of this wonderful hour. This year's wedding gowns all tend to the slightly higher waist line which is being favored by Paris just now in accord with the first empire costume effects. These empire lines are especially beautiful with the long, flowing skirt lines of the conventional wedding gown and help to give dignity and grace to the wearer. A very beautiful first empire wedding gown by a French

### IS FORTY THE "DESIRABLE AGE?"

THE courage of women is advancing in the matter of ages. To the modern woman the famous defense of the "girl of thirty" must appear a very absurd piece of history. Yet we cannot forget that there was a time when it seemed necessary to go to very considerable trouble in order to establish beyond a doubt the attractions of the thirties. Going back not many years earlier we find that the same false impressions existed as to the desirability of even lesser ages. An authority on this subject has recently recalled the gloomy and unappreciative period of the eternal feminine when the girl of twenty was considered slightly passé and the girl of twenty-five a "hopeless old maid." Sad revelations as to the girl of thirty are happily spared us, while we are left to conclude that the "woman of forty" hid herself and her failure in life in impenetrable solitude.

### The Secret of Daintiness.

There are some girls who, without being actually good looking, always contrive to look nice. You know, perhaps, that they have but a small dress allowance, yet in spite of this fact they look well every time you happen to see them, whereas other girls with more money at their command often look shabby and frumpish. What is the dainty girl's secret? Nothing more than that she is careful. She has a place for everything, and she keeps to it. Her veils, ribbons, gloves, etc., do not fight for supremacy in one terrible looking tangle and finally emerge in

couture is illustrated, this gown having just been sent over for an early spring bridal. The material is white satin charmeuse, a very thin, soft and clinging satin fabric which is of such rich quality that in spite of its light weight it falls into most luxurious folds. The bodice is gracefully draped and, as the photograph shows, is rather high, the long plain skirt sweeping into a heavy train. White Venise applique trims the bodice, and the sleeves

shows the peasant blouse. Entre deux of ballets and val lace insertions ornament the skirt.  
CATHERINE TALBOT.

## HOMEMADE TRAVELING CASES.

THE problem of packing one's belongings for traveling is one that is continually with us, and to only too many of us it is a practically insoluble difficulty. The "born" packers are few and far between, and most of us know the despairing feeling that comes when on a visit we unpack our box or bags and find everything in a hopeless muddle, blouses crushed out of all freshness and odds and ends shaken out of the corners wherein we so carefully stowed them to meet in confusion in the middle. But this state of things can be to a very great extent prevented, and homemade bags and cases for different articles will be found of enormous assistance in this respect. To begin with blouses, a case for these is quite easily manufactured, and in it starched shirts and soft chiffon and lace blouses all may travel safely without any fear of crushing or creasing on the way. The first necessity is two large sheets of fairly stiff cardboard, twenty-six inches long by twenty inches wide will be found a useful size, but if a suit case or portmanteau is often taken upon journeys it should be of such measurements as will just comfortably fit inside. Divide one of the sheets down the middle and cover the three pieces neatly with thin silk, chintz or even muslin. Cut a long strip of the material, say four inches wide, and gather it on to the large sheet all round the edge. Sew the other two pieces on to it, one each side, and arrange ribbons so that the free sides tie together down the middle, and you will have a compact and useful case, which will hold several blouses with ease. The top may be embroidered with a spray of flowers or a monogram, and if the case is intended for a present a good idea is to work the word "Blouses" in fancy lettering right across from corner to corner.

Another exceptionally useful article for traveling is a sponge bag, and the ordinary bag bought at a store can be immensely improved upon by the homemade article. Get a sheet of thin waterproof material measuring, say, 8 by 20 inches and lay it on an exactly similar piece of other material. Fold them over longways to the depth of eight inches from the bottom, stitch firmly up both sides and bind all round with ribbon. This can be done both easily and quickly by machine and is then certain to be quite strong. Sew a couple of patent fasteners near the edge by which to fasten the flap down. Then cut out the waterproof and material cut two pieces, one seven inches long and two inches wide, and the other five inches long and three inches wide. Stitch these firmly down, the narrow one across the bottom and the wider at the top, and they will make a couple of pockets to hold the toothbrush and a piece of soap.

This kind of sponge bag will be found singularly useful, as it keeps all the washing things together and yet can be packed away into a very small space. The outside material may be silk, chintz or even a colored print and the ribbon for binding should match the pattern.

A third thing that is almost indispensable when traveling is a Jewel case, and for the girl who wants to take a brooch or two and a few rings a neat little folding case will come in very handy and may easily be manu-

factured at home. The outside should be of fairly stout material, velvet, cloth or thick silk being suitable. Cut a piece twelve inches long and six inches wide and line it either with silk interlined with flannel or else, if possible, with a piece of wash leather, binding the edges all the way round with ribbon. Stitch lining and material together right across twice, dividing the case into three, each division being four inches wide. Along one sew a flap of the leather into which brooches can be pinned, on the next sew a strip of leather attached into little pockets one and a half inches square for rings, and in the third division make a pocket of 6 by 2 inches to hold a necklace, pendant or even a couple of bracelets. To the edge of the case in the middle sew a piece of the ribbon which will tie round when it is folded in three.

### Of White Broadcloth, Black Satin and Applique.



VERY smart indeed is the spring dress of white broadcloth, which is shown in the picture. It is well adapted for wear on dressy occasions. The trimmings are black satin and applique, a smart feature being the band of the skirt at the side of the skirt. The skirt itself is made on the new sectional line, the panels being marked by buttons. The collar effect is also new and effective. The hat which is worn with this dress is one of the late high crowned shapes trimmed with flowers.

### HABIT.

Right habit is like the thread on which we string precious pearls. The thread is perhaps of no great value, but if it be broken the pearls are lost.

## China With Odd Handles Is the Collector's Latest Fad



COLLECTING specimens of old English freak china, especially pieces with oddly shaped handles, is the latest fad among the seekers of objects with little intrinsic value, but highly prized because they are rare and the objects of desire.

The handles shown give really queer testimony to the workings of the potter's mind. Some of them are quaint, and all of them are interesting as showing the lengths to which the artistic mind will go in the search for novelty. The specimens shown are a brown earthenware teapot with a handle of a handle, a Swansea cream jug shaped like a cow, the tail forming the handle; an Ironstone ware piece with a reptilian handle and a brown jug picked up by means of a hand. In the case of the cream jug there is a broad humor in the form, it was meant to create mirth at the tea table,

and to us now it comes as a quaint specimen of bygone days and repouses in the china cabinet as a treasured possession. But in spite of these Swansea and Staffordshire cream jugs, the latest by the way, being crude and lacking the fine body and glaze, the model jug, intended for beer, is a mistake. Its projecting points soon came into conflict with a hard world.

Of course the more original the potter was the further he departed from accepted traditions of his craft. The teapot with a graceful handle embodying the bird with outstretched wings is almost an actual replica of a silver model.

### TO MAKE A BRAN BATH.

Bran baths are frequently of service in rough states of the skin. Place a closely tied cotton bag holding a small teaspoonful of bran in a quart of boiling water. Keep it hot for half an hour. Then add the water to four gallons of hot water and squeeze the bag dry.